



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

October 14, 2019

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)

FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Director
Office of Agriculture

SUBJECT: October 15, 2019 Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee

The Agricultural Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday **October 15, 2019 at 7:00 pm.**

We will be meeting at the Up County Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road Germantown MD 20874 Room A on the first floor.

The agenda is on the next page.

The draft minutes from the September 17, 2019 AAC meeting will be available at the meeting.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Office of Agriculture web site.
I will bring copies of the minutes, agenda, and other attachments.

<http://montgomerycountymd.gov/AgServices/agboardscommittee.html>

I hope to see you on Tuesday.

*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If you need other services or Aids to participate in this activity, please call 301-590-2810.



**Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting
October 15, 2019 Revised Agenda**

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Introductions:
2. Approval of the AAC meeting minutes from September 17, 2019.
3. Update on the Farm Alcohol Production Facilities-FAPF-The DPS, OAG and the MSCD are currently working together on the Lone Oak Farm Brewery (Former Sam Riggs Property). This operation will be the first FAPF to be reviewed and approved in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the OAG and the Department of Permitting Services to assist with the implementation of Farm Alcohol Production. The County Executive recommends an amendment to the Subdivision Regulations to exempt commercial buildings on farms that offer FAPF and agritourism activities.
4. The Agritourism Study Advisory Committee-ASAC met on Monday September 16, 2019 and reviewed the DRAFT report recommending a menu of options for the Committee to consider. The Committee was asked to provide final comments back to MNCPPC staff by October 4, 2019. An Interagency Work Group is recommended to determine how to implement agritourism venues in the County. On October 24, 2019 the Planning Board will tour several farms in the Agricultural Reserve. The ASAC will conduct another meeting before the end of October 2019.
5. The Sugarland Broadband Pilot Phase I along Partnership Road is completed, and the residents service is activated. Please note that we are finally making progress with Barbara Weitzer' neighbor to obtain signed easements to extend the Comcast service for her family. The phase II of the project coming down Sugarland Road has started, and completion has been delayed due to the ride on agreements for Comcast to connect their service to Pepco poles. We are hopeful this Phase II will be completed by the end of October. The phase III of the pilot will not be built due to several residents that are not willing to sign the Comcast Easements.
<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cable/Sugarland/sugarland-comcast.html>
6. Update on the River Road Improvements-Linda Lewis has everything she needs to begin testing the dust along River Road. Once the tests results are determined the OAG will coordinate with the agricultural groups on the next steps. A second community meeting is being planned by the Board of Directors of MAP and the MCFB including the AAC.
7. Follow up from the October 9, 2019 meeting between the County Executive, Special Assistant Dale Tibbitts, Bob Cissel and Michele Cropp where they discuss several agricultural issues.
8. The University of Maryland Extension conducted interviews on September 18, 2019 for the applicants that applied for David Gordon's 4-H Livestock position.

9. Comments from the Office of Agriculture on the MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan Sectional Map Amendment. See attached letter to the County Council.
10. Next meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee-November 19, 2019 @ 7:00pm

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

UME-Close Encounters with Agriculture Program-October 8-25, 2019
Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee- October 15, 2019
Future Harvest CASA-Sarah Son-October 16, 2019
Tour of Agritourism Farms for the Planning Board-October 24, 2019
MCFB Policy Development Deadline to MFB-October 24, 2019
Council Member Andrew Friedson-Tour of Farms in 1st District-October 30, 2019
Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors- November 5, 2019
Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors- November 8, 2019
Montgomery County Farm Bureau Annual Dinner Banquet- November 12, 2019
Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board-November 12, 2019 **Please note this APAB meeting may need to be cancelled or rescheduled since it conflicts with the MCFB Annual Dinner Banquet.**